

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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R 201040Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2320

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBAN 0399

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PDEV SF (TRANSKEI) UK

SUBJ: TRANSKEI RECOGNITION: UK APPROACH

REF: A. DURBAN 0355, B. DURBAN 0128

1. ON AUGUST 18 I ASKED BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL PARKER WHETHER HE OR HIS AUTHORITIES HAD TAKEN ANY FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON EARLIER MEETING WITH CHIEF MANTANZIMA (REF A) IN WHICH BRITISH RECEIVED IMPRESSION THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO ENJOY QUIET RELATIONSHIP WITH INDEPENDENT TRANSKEI WITHOUT GCANTING RECOGNITION. PARKER SAID HE WAS MAKING CONTACTS IN UMTATA WITHIN NEXT WEEK, "QUIETLY BUT LETTING THEM KNOW I AM AROUND". HE ADDED THAT, AT LEAST IN BRITISH EMBASSY PRETORIA, THOUGHT IS BEING GIVEN TO ENCOURAGING BRITISH COUNCIL TO ASSIST TRANSKEI AFTER INDEPENDENCE, PERHAPS IN ARRANGING FOR TEACHERS. NOTING THAT BRITISH COUNCIL OPERATES SEPARATELY FROM UK GOVT, PARKER FELT COUNCIL COULD CONCEIVABLY OFFER MEANS FOR ESTABLISHING BRITISH PRESENCE IN INDEPENDENT TRANSKEI ALTHOUGH UK DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION WAS WITHHELD.

2. SURPRISINGLY, PARKER SAID DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN AT EMBASSY PRETORIA LEVEL FOR A JUNIOR VICE CONSUL (D. RIDGWAY) TO VISIT UMTATA AFTER INDEPENDENCE TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY S.A. INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ON "THE TRANSKEI: INTERNATIONAL IMPLICA
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TIONS OF INDEPENDENCE". CONFERENCE IS NOVEMBER 24-27 (REF B AND BROCHURE PREVIOUSLY FORWARDED ADDRESSEES BY CG DURBAN DS-4, 4/21/76). AT SAME TIME PARKER NOTED THAT HMG RECENTLY HAD SHIED AWAY FROM A PROGRAM FOR TRANSKEI OPPOSITION LEADER, KNOWLEDGE GUZANA, DURING A BRIEF LONDON VISIT. AFTER PARKER EARLIER EXTENDED INVITATION, HE WAS PLACED IN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION OF TELLING GUZANA HE WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR OWN HOTEL ROOM, BUT THAT BRITISH OFFICIALS WOULD TRY TO MEET WITH HIM "INFORMALLY".

3. PARKER SAID KAISER MANTANZIMA, IN EARLIER MEETING, SEEMED QUITE EASILY TO COME TO TERMS WITH BRITISH INABILITY TO GRANT RECOGNITION AT INDEPENDENCE. AFTER BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT HAD EXPLAINED UK PROBLEMS, MANTANZIMA REPORTEDLY SHRUGGED AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO EXPLAIN HIS POSITION TO BRITISH MINISTERS, "BUT AFTER INDEPENDENCE".
FARBER

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